



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **MAYOR JERRY SANDERS**

### **FACT SHEET**

### **MAYOR'S FY12 BUDGET RESTORES FIRE ENGINES, FURTHER REDUCES STRUCTURAL DEFICIT**

*Service cuts still needed to close \$56.7 million budget gap*

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders today released his proposed Fiscal Year 2012 budget, which makes further progress toward eliminating the city's long-standing structural deficit while also funding deferred maintenance and restoring fire service cuts.

"Despite the tremendous challenges the city faces because of reduced revenue, this budget responsibly addresses the deficit without sacrificing public safety or our financial stability," said Sanders. "It cuts the structural deficit in half, but it also spares severe cuts to police and fire through some one-time measures."

The budget uses a mix of ongoing reductions and one-time measures to balance a \$56.7 million budget deficit and restore fire engines to service after 14 months of rolling brownouts that left up to eight fire stations staffed with only a single engine company.

The proposed budget achieves \$38.1 million in ongoing solutions a mix of spending reductions and revenue increases, including cutting contract and supply budgets by at least 10 percent in every department for a total savings of \$9 million and major cuts to park and library services.

Some of the major department budget measures include:

#### **Police:**

*Reduce by \$5.48 million, 27.5 positions*

- Reduction of 20 vacant sworn officer positions and uniform allowance
- Partial reduction of vehicle abatement unit
- Reduction of 3.5 full-time-equivalent civilian staff
- Revenue recovery for entertainment permitting

**Fire-Rescue:**

*Additional revenue of \$4.96 million; no staffing level changes*

- Revenue recovery for false alarms and air medical transport

**Park & Recreation:**

*Reduce by \$6.48 million, 77 positions*

- Reduction of rec center hours from 40 to 20 hours per week after summer
- Reduced pool hours and elimination of swim team and water polo programs after summer
- Elimination of after-school programs at five rec centers
- Reduction in trail and turf maintenance & brush thinning

**Library:**

*Reduce by \$7.4 million, 77 positions*

- Pairing of branch libraries, reducing hours from 36 hours per week to 18.5
- Each branch will be open two days per week and alternating Saturdays

**Environmental Services:**

*Reduce by 2.06 million, 9 positions*

- Elimination of non-required refuse collection from 14,200 residential customers
- Elimination of non-required refuse collection from 4,500 business customers

City staff in will be reduced by 248 positions, both vacant and filled, in the proposed budget. Since the mayor took office, the city has eliminated 1,671 full-time-equivalent positions citywide, many of them vacant, through efficiencies and service reductions.

The budget reflects consolidation of the Planning and Development Services departments, which saves approximately \$1 million annually. Next year's minor savings from competitive bidding on information technology and managed competition are expected to grow annually over the next several years.

The proposed budget also includes \$35.1 million in one-time measures to balance the budget, including suspending additional contributions to the city's reserves; transfer of accumulated fund balances (surplus funds) throughout city departments; use of state and federal reimbursement for past disasters; use of unclaimed funds; and use of one-time federal stimulus grants to support street maintenance.

In addition, the city will continue to address its backlog of deferred maintenance with a new bond totaling approximately \$100 million, which the city expects to issue in the next fiscal year.

"Next year, I intend to solve the final piece of the deficit that has been carried through every year over decades," Sanders said. "While I'm proud of the efficiencies and reforms that have shrunk the costs of operating city government to a manageable size, I'm also hopeful that revenues will return to standard levels as the nation emerges from the recession, and that we'll be able to restore some of the steep cuts to our parks and libraries."

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